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Artificial and synthetic fibres for technical and industrial use

In order to show the growing importance throughout the world of artificial and synthetic fibres, not only in the field of fashion but also in the technical and industrial fields too, the «International Rayon and Synthetic Fibres Committee» (C.I.R.F.S.) has organised a small mobile exhibition consisting of nearly 800 samples from different European countries, the United States and Canada, and giving a vivid idea of the very varied uses to which chemical fibres may be put in the following fields: agriculture, fishing, transport, textiles, food, machinery, mining, various industries, the building trade, fire-fighting, the home, gardening, medicine, surgery, sports, travel, camping, etc.

This exhibition, which is scheduled to tour the main European countries, was in Zurich from September 29th to October 1st. On this occasion, the Association of Swiss Artificial Silk Manufacturers had invited members of the press to a visit with commentary. The guests were greeted on their arrival by Mr. Charles Gamper, head of the Société de la Viscose Suisse at Emmenbrücke and member of the Board of Directors of C.I.R.F.S., who called attention to the present-day importance of the industrial use of chemical fibres, which are often wrongly considered as

being more or less limited to the textile field. In actual fact, industrial uses account for almost 40 % of the world output of chemical fibres; the proportion has in fact doubled during the last ten years. During an interesting, informative talk, Mr. Hermann Kobler, of the Société de la Viscose Suisse, gave a detailed account of the various products in which chemical fibres have been successfully used: tyre casings, conveyor belts, driving belts, flexible tubing, ropes, tarpaulins and tents, protective sacks and envelopes, membranes for pumps and valves, paper, filters, surgical suture threads, etc. Those present were then shown round the exhibition, which displayed, in addition to examples of the above-mentioned industrial uses, a very representative selection of samples from the textile field proper: nylon fabrics, rayon and staple-fibre fabrics, of different types and different finishes, for outer- and under-garments, furnishings and travel accessories, toys and sports equipment.

The Swiss firms taking part in this display were the Swiss Viscose Company at Emmenbrücke, Feldmühle Ltd. at Rorschach, and Steckborn Artificial Silk Manufacturers Ltd. at Steckborn.



Un coup d'œil sur le secteur textile de l'exposition
A glimpse on the textile sector of the Exhibition
Ojeada en el sector de los textiles de la exposición
Ein Blick auf dem Textilsektor der Ausstellung
Photo Beyeler